CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

ADOPTING A KITTEN.

A True Story of the Goodness of a Dear Old Plymouth Rock Hen.

Tappan Adney sends this to the Jack-in-the-Pulpit department of St. Nicholas:

One day not long ago a small black and white kitten wandered into the grounds of the institute at Flushing. Its fur was rough, and it was sad and wretched because its own mother had deserted it. It seemed to have not a friend in the world; so for companionship, or perhaps to secure a bite of food now and then, it began to associate warily with the chickens at the barn. Among a number of hens with a

horde of small chickens was one old hen in particular that possessed a brood of four chicks. Something about this old hen attracted the motherless kitten, and the two became friends.

Of all this, however, little was known by the people of the house. But one day, somebody (perhaps it was Mr. Northup, who has especial charge of the garden and the stables and all that) reported that one of the hens was curiously engaged.

Several persons went out, and there was the old Plymouth Rock hen on the ground, with her own brood crowding under one wing, while under the other was a little kitten whose head and shoulders could just be seen sticking out among the feathers, looking satisfied and comfortable, as you can see in the picture I send with this.

The Story of Michael Angelo.

Two boys were herding swine in Italy. They were evidently discussing some very important subject, for they were earnest at it. A man approached, and the boys separated, each for his own side of the pasture. The man was angry and was shaking his hand at them. The boys said nothing; they drove their swine in and were quiet as a mouse about it. The man had said they should stay out until dark, and the sun had not even set yet. After they had driven the swine to their respective places each crept to his room, took his clothes and tied them in a bundle. This done, they both crept down and ran to the road which led to Rome. One's name was Peter; the other, Michael Angelo. Both were poor boys. They tramped and tramped, and the first thing they did when they reached Rome was to go to church. After they had rested and prayed they looked for employment. Peter received employment as the cook's boy in some cardinal's house, but Michael could find nothing to do, so he almost despaired.

He went to his friend Peter, who gave him something to eat, and at night secretly let him into his room in the attic to sleep. This went on for a long time, Peter content to let his friend do this, and Michael content also. Michael when in church had seen some fine pictures. One which fascinated him was "Christ Ascending to Heaven." Taking bits of charcoal, he went to Peter's room and drew pictures on the white walls. One day the cardinal had occasion to go to the room. Michael had meanwhile secured employment in the cardinal's kitchen. The cardinal, upon seeing all the pictures, was dumfounded with their accurateness. He called Peter and Michael up stairs and asked who had drawn them. Michael confessed he had but said he thought he could rub them out again. The cardinal explained to him that it was all right so far as the wall was concerned. He took Michael and sent him to a drawing master and gave Peter a better position. And Michael worked hard at his drawings, learned diligently and became the renowned Michael Angelo, one of the greatest painters of his time.—Exchange.

Children In Japan.

Japanese children have two special annual holidays, one for the boys and one for the girls. The 3d of March belongs to the girls, and on that day the streets of all the large cities of Japan are overflowing with them.

The stores and toyshop windows are made like a fairyland with the aid of diminutive representations of native objects and people. The boys' holiday comes soon after, the 5th of May being set apart for their good time. Then the shop windows are crowded with paper carps of all sizes floating in the air, very much as we display flags. The reason that the carp is kept for the boys' holiday is that the carp's practice of "swimming against the stream" suggests to the Japanese a plucky youth, who by perseverance and close attention to his studies eventually rises to a position of worth and importance.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Bessie and I.

We've been to the orchard, Bessie and I,
And gathered the apples you see.
And mother will make us a big juicy pie,
Don't you wish you were Bessie or me?
—Christian Work.

A ROYAL WIDOW.

Something About the Past and Present of the Duchess of Albany.

The Duchess of Albany has recently come before the world as an inventor. She has received a gold medal from the Sanitary Institute exhibition at London for the peculiar shaped school seat and desk which she designed some years since, and which is now in use in most of the royal and imperial nurseries in England and on the continent. The invention has special reference to the effect of posture on the health of school children, and is very suitable and practicable, all parts being adjustable to the work of physical development of a child.

It is said that the widowed Duchess of Albany is one of the most popular, unassuming and kind hearted members of the royal family. She is not beauti-

THE DUCHESS AND HER SON.

ful, but her face is attractive and her manner charming. It is generally understood that she has remained unmarried since the death of her husband merely in deference to the wishes of her mother-in-law, Queen Victoria. Her married life was certainly not ideal, for, although affectionate relations existed between her husband and herself, yet, owing to his delicacy of health, she was never free from the most terrible anxiety and care. He was subject to epileptic fits, and, moreover, he was deficient in the normal quota of epidermis.

The duke was so delicate that he was rarely permitted to drive, or even to undergo the exertion of walking up stairs, and the elevator at Buckingham palace was built for him. He was very self willed, and he insisted upon marrying the duchess, notwithstanding that every member of his family was opposed to the match on the ground of his precarious health. The duke died suddenly at Cannes from a hemorrhage, brought on by overexertion. Since his death the duchess, who is a sister-in-law of the queen regent of the Netherlands, has been living at Claremont, devoting herself to the education of her little boy and girl. She is to a great extent dependent upon the queen, as the annuity of $30,000 a year, which she receives from parliament as a widow of the sovereign's youngest son, is inadequate to cover the expenditure which residence at the palace of Claremont and the maintenance of a royal household involve.

THE FASTNET LIGHT.

It Is the First Glimpse the American Gets of Foreign Shores.

The first glimpse of Great Britain that the American tourist gets on his European tour is that of the Fastnet lighthouse.

It stands on a rugged and solitary rock, situated nine miles south of Crookhaven, at the extreme southwest corner of Ireland, and is perhaps more storm-beaten than any other around our coast. The rock is 80 feet in height, and the lighthouse towers another 70 feet above, yet, in winter gales, the Atlantic billows literally bombard the massive structure and have even smashed in a portion of the lantern at the summit of the erection, the seas frequently sweeping over the rock with tremendous force. Some two or three years ago the stormy weather then prevailing prevented all communication with the rock for many weeks, so that the store of food was consumed, with the exception of some flour. At last a schooner managed to approach sufficiently near to enable a small quantity of food to be dragged through the sea by the hungry men, and fortunately the next day the sea moderated, and the stores were once more fully replenished.

Except in very calm weather the Fastnet is surrounded by a fringe of foam, and the only means of landing is by the aid of a "jib" 58 feet in length, so placed on the rock that, in moderate weather, its end reaches outside the surf. When a visitor wishes to land (an unusual occurrence), he is rowed in a small boat as near as the waves permit, and the lightkeepers throw out a small buoy, attached to a rope, which is secured by the man in the boat. The jib is then swung out, and the visitor, placing one foot in the loop and catching tight hold of the rope, is hoisted about 40 feet vertically, and then the jib, being pivoted at its foot, swings him horizontally about 100 feet on to a safe landing.—London Sketch.

ENGINEERING BY A MOUSE.

The Skillful Plan by Which He Got Himself Out of a Deep Hole.

"While digging holes for telegraph poles at Byron, Me.," said a Western Union man, "I became interested in watching the ingenuity and perseverance of a mouse. He fell into one of the holes, which was 4½ feet deep and 20 inches across. The first day he ran around the bottom of the hole, trying to find some means of escape, but could not climb out. The second day he settled down to business. He began steadily and systematically to dig a spiral groove round and round the inner surface of the hole with a uniformly ascending grade. He worked night and day, and as he got farther from the bottom he dug little pockets where he could either lie or sit and rest. Interested witnesses threw in food.

"At the end of two weeks the mouse struck a rock. This puzzled him. For nearly a day he tried to get under, around or over the obstruction, but without success. With unflinching patience he reversed his spiral and went on tunneling his way in the opposite direction. At the end of four weeks he reached the top and probably sped away to enjoy his well earned freedom. His escape was not seen. When his food was put in in the morning, he was near the surface, but at night the work was seen to be complete, and the little engineer, whose pluck and skill had saved his life, had left."—New York Sun.

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

New York & Greenw'd Lake RR

TO NEW YORK.

Chesnut Hill—7:26, 8:24, 7:02, 7:27, 8,08 8:44, 10:08, 12:22, 2.38, 3:36, 4:39, 5:34, 6,52 9:36, 11.36.

Sunday; 7:37, 8:57, 11,42, 2:25, 4.37, 6:51, 8:42;

Belleville Ave.—7:28, 6:27, 7:04; 7:30, 7:52 8:11; 8:31, 8:46, 10:11, 12:24, 2:40, 3:38, 4:42, 5:36; 6:54, 9:38, 11:38.

Sunday; 7:30, 9:00, 11.44, 2:28, 4.29, 6:53, 8:44.

Orchard Street—7:30, 8:29, 7:06, 7:54, 8:46, 10:13 12:26, 2:42, 3:40, 4:44, 5:38, 8:56, 9:51, 11:51.

Sunday; 7:32, 9:02, 11.46, 2:30, 4.31, 6:56, 8:46.

FROM NEW YORK

Chambers Street—6:10, 7:37, 9.00, 10.30, 12:00, 1:30, 2:10, 3.15, 4:22, 5:00, 5:22 5:37, 6:00, 6:22, 7:00, 8:15, 10:15, 12:15.

Sunday; 9:00, 10.30, 12:45, 4:30, 6:15, 8.45 10:00.

23rd Street—5:55, 7:25, 8:55, 10:25, 11:55, 1:25, 2:20, 3:10, 4:10, 4:55, 5:10, 5:25, 5:55, 6:10, 6:55, 7:55, 9:55, 11:55.

Sunday; 8:55, 10.25, 12:25, 4:25, 5.55, 8.40, 9:55

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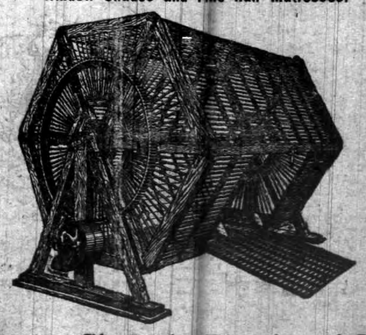

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